

Appl. No. : 09/585,134
Filed : June 1, 2000

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) A joint, comprising:

a first surface and a second surface, the first and second surfaces being subject to a regulation which requires specified physical properties for fasteners used to join the first and second surfaces;

a fastener securing the first surface to the second surface, the fastener having a colored portion which is exposed to view, wherein the color of the colored portion has been pre-selected to define at least one or more of the specified physical properties which correlate to those set forth in the regulation.

11. (Original) The joint of Claim 10, wherein the regulation is contained in the Uniform Building Code.

12. (Currently amended) The joint of Claim 11, wherein the fastener is a nail, ~~and the specified physical properties are the length and gauge of the nail.~~

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) A fastener and connector system, comprising:

a connector which is required by regulation to be used with fasteners having specified physical properties;

a ~~first~~ colored indicia on the connector, the ~~first color indicia~~ colored indicia on the connector having been pre-selected to indicate the fasteners which regulation permits may be used with the connector;

a fastener having the specified properties; and

a ~~second~~ colored indicia on the fastener, the ~~second color indicia~~ colored indicia on the fastener having been pre-selected to define the specified physical properties.

15. (Currently amended) The fastener and connector system of Claim 14, wherein the ~~first color indicia~~ colored indicia on the connector and the ~~second color indicia~~ colored indicia on the fastener are the same color.

16. (Currently amended) The fastener and connector system of Claim 14, wherein the ~~first color indicia~~ colored indicia on the connector and the ~~second color indicia~~ colored indicia on the fastener ~~may be~~ are different colors.

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17. (Previously presented) The fastener and connector system of Claim 14, wherein a symbol is applied to the fastener or connector to connote a separate physical property.

18. (Previously presented) The fastener and connector system of Claim 17, wherein the symbol comprises a letter.

19. (Previously presented) The fastener and connector system of Claim 17, wherein the symbol comprises a number.

20. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 10, where from a distance of at least 10 feet, the color of the exposed colored portion of the fastener is discernible by a person of ordinary vision.

21. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 10, where from a distance of at least 15 feet, the color of the exposed colored portion of the fastener is discernible by a person of ordinary vision.

22. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 10, where from a distance of at least 18 feet, the color of the exposed colored portion of the fastener is discernible by a person of ordinary vision.

23. (Previously presented) The joint of claim 10, where from a distance of more than 20 feet, the color of the exposed colored portion of the fastener is discernible by a person of ordinary vision.

24. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 20, wherein the fastener is a bolt.

25. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 20, wherein the fastener is a staple.

26. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 20, wherein the fastener is a rivet.

27. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 20, wherein the fastener is a screw.

28. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 20, wherein the fastener is a wedge anchor bolt.

29. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 20, wherein the fastener is an anchor bolt.

30. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 20, wherein the fastener is a bolt and nut.

31. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 20, wherein the fastener is a lag bolt.

32. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 10, wherein a symbol is applied to the fastener to connote a separate physical property.

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33. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 32, wherein the symbol comprises a letter.

34. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 32, wherein the symbol comprises a number.

35. (Previously presented) A joint comprising:

a first surface and a second surface, the first and second surfaces requiring specified physical properties for fasteners used to join the first and second surfaces;

a fastener securing the first surface to the second surface, the fastener having a colored portion which is exposed to view, wherein the color of the colored portion has been pre-selected to define one or more of the specified physical properties.

36. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 35, wherein from a distance of at least 10 feet, the color of the exposed colored portion of the fastener is discernible by a person of ordinary vision.

37. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 35, where from a distance of at least 15 feet, the color of the exposed colored portion of the fastener is discernible by a person of ordinary vision.

38. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 35, where from a distance of at least 18 feet, the color of the exposed colored portion of the fastener is discernible by a person of ordinary vision.

39. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 35, where from a distance of more than 20 feet, the color of the exposed colored portion of the fastener is discernible by a person of ordinary vision.

40. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 35, wherein the fastener is selected from the group consisting of screws, bolts and nuts, staples and rivets.

41. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 35, wherein a symbol is applied to the fastener to connote a separate physical property.

42. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 41, wherein the symbol is a letter.

43. (Previously presented) The joint of Claim 41, wherein the symbol is a number.

44. (New) The joint of Claim 10, wherein the fastener color is further selected to specify application properties of the fastener.

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45. (New) The fastener connector system of Claim 17, where from a distance of at least 10 feet, the color of the exposed colored portion of the fastener is discernible by a person of ordinary vision.

46. (New) The fastener connector system of Claim 17, where from a distance of at least 15 feet, the color of the exposed colored portion of the fastener is discernible by a person of ordinary vision.

47. (New) The fastener connector system of Claim 17, where from a distance of at least 18 feet, the color of the exposed colored portion of the fastener is discernible by a person of ordinary vision.

48. (New) The fastener connector system of Claim 17, where from a distance of more than 20 feet, the color of the exposed colored portion of the fastener is discernible by a person of ordinary vision.

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Attached.